tutes did not produce details of debit, deposit and remittance heads transactions at the time of their audit, these details were furnished by them later on alongwith their annual accounts. On the basis of these details only, the consolidated DDR heads statement was furnished by the Council to the Audit. All the formations of the Council have, however, been instructed during March, 1989 to produce all the detailed records of DDR heads to the audit at the time of audit of the tccounts for the year 1988-89 positively. (iv) Replies have been furnished by the Council to the Director of Audit, Commerce, Works and Miscellaneous, New Delhi in response to the Audit Report on the accounts of the ICAR.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, no inquiry is contemplated into the working of the ICAR and Agricultural Institutes in the country.

Recommendations of the Parthasarthy Committee

*274. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Parthasarthi Committee have formulated certain guidelines for Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these guidelines are strictly adhered to; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A 14 Member Media Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri G. Parthasarthy (Sr.) was constituted in November, 1980 to advise the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on policies and programmes relating to the Media Units under its administartive control. This Committee, *Inter alia*, also framed guidelines relating to the "News Policy for Broadcast Media" Excerpts from the news policy guidelines are reproduced below:—

(i) The reporting of the news has to be factual, accurate and objective and only such views as make news should find a place in news-broadcasts.

(ii) Each news story should be judged strictly on the basis of its news value.

(iii) In selection of news, AIR and Doordarshan should be guided by the highest possible professional standards.

(iv) News should be treated factually and objectively and, where necessary, background to the events and happenings should be provided to help place such events and happenings in proper perspective.

(v) News should satisfy the highest criteria of accuracy and responsibility.

(vi) People's participation in development activities as also significant work being done by voluntary agencies should be duly highlighted.

(vii) The style and method of news-reporting should reinforce the fundamental principles of national policies, including territorial integrity, national integration, secularism, maintenance of public order and upholding the dignity and prestige of Parliament, State Legislatures and the Judiciary.

(viii) Ministerial statement on policy matters particularly those of the Prime Minister, and implementation of Government Programmes should be given proper place in the news. The focus should be on information rather than on individuals.

(ix) reporting on political controversies, the broadcast media should be guided by objectivity and fair play. Due representation of differing views should be the aim.

(x) In the choice of international events, the objective should be to keep the people informed of world developments.

The guidelines referred to above have been accepted by the Government and communicated to All India Radio and Doordarshan. These guidelines are followed by the Media scrupulously in production and presentation of news bulletins and current affairs programmes.

Sponsord TV serials

*275. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan is likely to announce the opening of Sponsored TV serials from various registered producers; and

(b) if so, by when such an announcement is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Presently Doordarshan is in the process of informing all those persons/firms who have been selected for registration with Doordarshan as producers/Directors. Doordarshan would soon start inviting the producers/directors to submit proposals for sponsored programmes on those subjects which are required as per programmee needed. All the empannelled persons would not be simultaneously required to send proposals on their own.

Suggestions for policy changes in Comprehensive Crops Insurance Scheme

*276. KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date, when Government had received the report of the Group which had suggested policy changes in the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme, after conducting an indepth and critical review of the functioning of the Scheme;

(b) what are the suggestions of the Group as regards to (i) covering of every single agricultural crop; (ii) covering of every single farmer who is poor/marginal; and (iii) covering of farming even in a remote and distant place; and

(c) what is Government's response to each suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) The Government had received the Report of the Group constituted to conduct an indepth and critical review on the functioning of Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) on 12th August, 1988.

(b) and (c) The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is applicable to farmers availing crop loans from cooperative credit institutions, commercial banks and the Regional Rural Banks for growing Wheat, Paddy, Millets, Oilseeds and Pulses crops in any area of a State which has been notified for an insured crop during a season under the scheme. The Group constituted by the Government to conduct an indepth and critical review of the functioning of CCIS has made the following suggestions for enhancing the coverage of areas, crops and farmers:

(i) *Covering every single Agricultural Crop.*—The scheme should continue to cover only the crops presently included under the scheme i.e. Wheat, Paddy, Millets, Oilseeds and Pulses, for the time being. However, in case any of the implementing States so desire, they may run their own scheme for additional crops such as Sugarcane, Cotton, Potato etc. Appropriate technical assistance and reinsurance coverage can be had from the Government of India.

(ii) *Covering every poor/Marginal Farmer.*—The Group has recommended that the crop insurance should be con-